

February 28, 1975

SENATOR BARNETT: You would have to be more specific because I don't want to mislead because I don't remember. I don't know what you are talking about specifically.

SENATOR SYAS: It is a little bit vague, I admit. Well, anyhow, I am just asking the question that I believe in this bill but I am just asking that question and I think you can't settle that one today but I think you should look into it before it gets to Final Reading.

SPEAKER: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Syas, this is not a result of a court decision. This is not a penalty or a change of action after a case has appeared in court. This, in many ways, is a functioning of a state agency which is not the same thing as what you can do with someone after they have been taken to court. I certainly will double check this but I did check with the Attorney General on my other legislation too.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, I am not saying it is or isn't. All I am trying to say is you are handling a case differently in different parts of the state.

SENATOR MARSH: It is not a case yet. That's the point I am making. It is not a case.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, OK. I just feel that it should be checked.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you and I certainly will check it.

SPEAKER: We have a motion to indefinitely postpone on the Clerk's desk.

CLERK: I move to indefinitely postpone LB 20. Signed Senator Goodrich.

SPEAKER: Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, the federal statutes that provide for child abuse cases provide that all state statutes that are developed in this area provide...there is a series of requirements (B), for example, provide for the reporting of known and suspected instances of child abuse or neglect. Now up to that point, Senator Marsh's bill could be termed in compliance but when you get up to (f) it says, provide for the cooperation of law enforcement officials, courts of competent jurisdiction and appropriate state agencies providing human services. This bill is not in cooperation with the police division of the only town in the state of Nebraska that it pertains to, that is Omaha. Why, for example, doesn't it pertain to Lincoln, if they have child abuse divisions here which they do. Why, for example, is Senator Marsh only picking Omaha. I would definitely urge the indefinite postponement of this bill. I have tried my darndest to work it out, our differences with Senator Marsh. We are actually in agreement in all respects of how the bill should be processed except one and that is, in the case of child abuse where there is a potential of violence. I want the police officer to go in first and quell the violence. That's the only difference Senator Marsh and I have about the whole bill. Apparently,